trial Development Bank of India recently, and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO). (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

Statement

Financial insttutions consider on a selective basis applications for mini steel plants depending upon their satisfying techno-economic viability including minimum economic capacity and adoption of modern and appropriate technology. Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that no specific industry study as such on mini steel has been made by it. However, as a part of its operations, developments relating to various industries are generally kept under review by IDBI.

SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister how many mini steel plants have been given licence during the last three years and how many of those could not take off due to poor finance and what the reaction of the Government is to that?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Sir, the position in the last three years was that until December 1987 we, as a rule, were not giving financial assistance to new mini steel plants. The problem was particularly regarding power because it is a highly power-intensive industry, and this problem was taken into account while not giving permission to new mini steel plants. However, as far as financial assistance is concerned, we were giving financial assistance is concerned, we are giving financial assistance for modernisation and updating of technology of the existing mini steel plants. This policy has not been changed, with effect from December, 1987; and now we have removed mini steel plants from the negative list in which they were earlier. Now the financial institutions do give financial assistance to new mini steel plants. However, we keep in mind the need to encourage modernisation; energy conservation and product improvement for enabling entrepreneurs to incorporate some of the new technogical developments in the field, while giving financial assistance for new mini steel plants. We also do keep in mind that a mini-Steel plant is a highly power intensive industry. Therefore; sufficient guarantee of obtaining power is insisted upon by the financial institutions in such applications. Therefore, in the last three years the position has changed from what it was obtaining since December 1987. Earlier, new mini-steel plants were in the negative list for giving financial assistance. Now they are not in the negative list, but this approach as I have outlined; is being pursued while giving financial assistance to them.

SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: I would like to know whether the Government is thinking to keep the mini-steel plants only in the joint sector so that the State Government can see that progress of those mini-steel plants is satisfactory.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: This is a question which the hon. Member may like to address to the Ministry of Steel, because it concerns them. We deal only with the financial assistance.

Export of textiles to non-quota countries

*284. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:†

SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Harvendra Singh Hanspal.

set up a group to study the non-quota markets for Indian textiles and also to devise various strategies to boost exports to non-quota countries;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) to what extent the export of textiles to other countries will be boosted as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Two Study Groups—one for Garments and another for Textiles have been recently constituted in the Ministry of Textiles with a view to studying the non-quota markets and devising export strategies. It is too early to make an assessment of the increase in exports to non-quota markets. However, the exports of cotton textiles and garments to non-quota markets have gone up from Rs. 539 crores in 1984 to Rs. 827 crores in 1987.

श्री हरवेन्द्र सिंह हंसपाल : सभापति महोदय, सरकार का यह बहुत सुन्दर स्टेटमेंट है जिससे न तो कोई जानकारी मिलती है और न कोई सवाल बनता है फिर भी यह जानना चाहूंगा कि आपने जो स्टडी ग्रुप बनाए हैं ये कब बनाए गए हैं और इनको कितना टाइम दिया गया है जिसमें ये अपनी रिपोर्ट पेश कर सकें ?

श्री राम निवास मिर्धा : श्रीमन्, मैंने स्पष्ट रूप से कहा है कि नान कोटा क्षेत्र में कितनी प्रगति हुई है। आंकड़े भी दिए हैं। अगर माननीय सदस्य देखना चाहें तो 1984 में 539 करोड़ थे जिससे बढ़कर 1987 में 827 करोड़ हो गए हैं फिर भी हम इससे संतुष्ट नहीं हैं, हम चाहते हैं कि नान कोटा देशों में हमारा ज्यादा-से-ज्यादा एक्सपोर्ट हो क्योंकि जो कोटा देशों में है उनमें करीब शत-प्रतिशत के नजदीक हुई हैं। हमारा निर्यात बढ़ाने में उससे हमें काफी कामयाबी हासिल हुई है। श्रीमन्, यह जो स्टडी ग्रुप बने है, यह कुछ ही महीने पहले बने है। इसकी एक-एक मीटिंग हो गयी है और जल्दी ही दूसरी मीटिंग होगी और हम उम्मीद करते हैं कि इसके जो नतीजे निकलेंगे, उनके जो सुझाव आएंगें उनसे हम नान कोटा देशों में ज्यादा-से-ज्यादा निर्यात कर सकेंगे। उससे हमें बहुत मदद मिलेगी और अच्छे अच्छे सुझाव मिलेंगे।

श्री हरवेन्द्र सिंह हंसपाल : महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने यह तो बताया कि कुछ महीने हुए ये स्टडी ग्रुप बनाए गए है, लेकिन डेफिनिट डेट नहीं बतायी और यह भी नही बताया कि इनकी रिपोर्ट कब तक आ जाएगी। अगर वे यह बताने की मेहरबानी करें तो बहुत अच्छा होगा। इसके अलावा अखबार में 4-12-87 को एक खबर छपी थी कि जो कन्सेंशस दिए जाएंगे उसके बाद इनसे 5 सालों में 2 हजार करोड़ का एक्सपोर्ट हो सकेगा। अगर यह सही हो तो मंत्री महोदय बताएं कि रिपोर्ट कब तक आ जाएगी। और जो कन्सेंशस वह रिकमंड करेंगे वह इमीडिएट लागू कर के क्या यह टार्गेट 2 हजार करोड़ वाला एचीव कर सकेंगे पांच साल में ?

श्री राम निवास मिर्धा : श्रीमन्, इन ग्रुपों की पहली मीटिंग 23 फरवरी, 1988 को हुई थी। मैं समझता हूं जल्दी ही वह रिपोर्ट दे देंगे। ज्यादा समय नहीं लगेगा और जहां तक 2 हजार करोड़ का प्रश्न है, निश्चित रूप से कुछ नहीं कहा जा सकता कि हम कितना इस में कर पाएंगे। उनके जो सुझाव आएंगे उस समय हम उनको कितना कार्यान्वित कर सकते है, वह सारा उन पर मुनस्सर होगा। लेकिन श्रीमन् यह तो हम निरन्तर कोशिश करते रहे हैं कि नान कोटा देशों में किस प्रकार या नान कोटा देशों में नान कोटा

आयटम्स को ज्यादा-से-ज्यादा भेजा जाए। इस साल की जो कोटा डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन पालिसी है उस में मिसाल के तौर पर बताता हूं कि हमने नान कोटा एक्सपोर्टर सिस्टम को एक परसेंट से बढ़ाकर तीन परसेंट कर दिया है। इसी तरह से हमने और भी छोटी-मोटी बातें अभी से प्रारंभ कर दी है। लेकिन हम इंतजाम कर रहे हैं इस स्टडी ग्रुप का जिस में ट्रेड के नुमाइंदे है, सरकारी आफिसर हैं और दूसरे विशेषज्ञ भी हैं और उनके सुझाव आने के बाद हम निश्चित रूप से एक नयी पालिसी शुरू करेंगे जिससे कि कोटा देशों में और नान कोटा आयटम्स को कोटा देशों में कितना ज्यादा निर्यात हो सकता है इसका पता चल सके।

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir; so far our textile export is concerned, the textile industry is dependent on what is called *raham-o-karam* of quota countries and a little increase is altogether immaterial because there is a bigger requirement of the world. Now, why cannot we increase the textile export to the countries who do not put unreasonable conditions on our export particularly more to the rupee trade countries from where we are also benefited and the export does not suffer.

श्री राम निवास मिर्धा : हमारा आज के विश्व बैंक में जो ट्रड चलता है वह ज्यादातर मल्टी फाइबर एग्रीमेंट के अंतर्गत चलता है और उस के अन्तर्गत हम विभिन्न देशों से करार करते रहते हैं और हाल ही में हम ने ई० ई० सी० से कनाडा से यू० एस० ए० से, नार्वे से आस्ट्रेलिया से, फिनलैंड से और स्वीडन से इस तरह के करार किये हैं जो पहले से बहुत अच्छे हैं। मैं आप को मिसाल के तौर पर बतलाऊं कि 1984 में 1455.75 करोड़ रुपये का निर्यात किया गया जो बढ़ कर 3023.58 करोड़ रुपये हो गया है। यह काफी बढ़ा है। कोटा कंट्रीज का मैं आप को बतलाऊं कि 1984 में वह 917.05 करोड़ था जो अब बढ़ कर 1987 में अनुमानित है 2197.03 करोड़। जो हमारे समाजवादी देश हैं वह कोटा कंट्रीज के बाहर हैं। उन से हमारा हर साल एक जदा करार होता है और वह कोटा के अंतर्गत नहीं आते। उन से हम ने एक विशेषष एग्रीमेंट कर रखा है। हर साल हम यह एग्रीमेंट बनाते हैं और उसके आधार पर ट्रेड करते हैं। उस में कुछ ज्यादा बढ़त तो नहीं हुई है लेकिन हम कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि इस क्षेत्र में भी ज्यादा से ज्यादा निर्यात हो।

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Sir, the study Group is going into the difficulties of increasing quota to non-quota countries. As far as I am aware, one of the basic difficulties is that the cash compensatory support whch is being given for export of textiles is totally inadequate. May I know from the Minister whether the Government would increase the cash compensatory support in the meantime till the report comes? There is a possibility of exporting particularly garments, cotton fabrics; cotton yarn to countries like hard currency areas on Eastern side. That is one point.

Secondly, as the Minister is aware; we have two types of exports. One is to the quota countries and the other is to the non-quota countries. In this country we have got hundred per cent textile export units. The Minister is aware of the difficulties of the hundred per cent textile export units when sudden policy changes take place either on domestic front or on foreign countries front when they restrict their quota. May I know from the Minister whether the Government has thought of any solution for this thing?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Sir, the cash compensatory support is not an export subsidy. The cash compensatory support is given to compensate for taxes etc., which a manufacturer has to pay. But still we have, from time to time; revised these rates. Higher rates of cash compensatory support, that is 10 per per cent is given to exports of cotton garments to

non-quota countries as against CCS for fast moving items and 8 per cent for slow moving items and non-quota items to countries. So the problem raised by the hon. Member is already before us and we would see that cash compensatory support is adjusted according to the situation.

As regards vagaries and other problems, we have to meet as and when they arise and there cannot be any ready-made solution for that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 285.

Cleaning of River Yamuna

*285. SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:†

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ganga Action Plan has suffered a set back due to the confluence of the river Yamuna at Allahabad with its pollutants; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to clean the Yamuna?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) The data available indicates that the Yamuna does not by itself contribute to the pollution of the river Ganga except in the stretch along Allahabad where waste waters from the city are discharged into Yamuna.

(b) Under the Ganga Action Plan, schemes have already been taken up to prevent the flow of such waste water into Yamuna at Allahabad.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Sir, the efforts to clean the Ganges have to be redoubled beyond Sangam as Yamuna becomes greatly polluted before reaching Sangam at Allahabad. The river Yamuna between Delhi, Agra and Mathura is particularly dirty because of industrial waste being put into it at Delhi. This is a cause of great worry because of the industrial waste. I would like the Minister to tell us what measures he is taking to clean up the Yamuna at Delhi and whether talks were held by Ganga Action Plan authorities with Delhi Administration and Mathura Municipality. What follow-up action was taken? Certain States through which the river Yamuna passes will also submit reports. I am told that Haryana submitted its report. What is being done in the matter?

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: Sir, you will appreciate the question is regarding the pollution caused by the river Yamuna in the Ganges.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: You can see the heading. The heading is "cleaning of river Yamuna".

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: Sir, the Ganga Action Plan is specifically meant to clean the Ganges. It is true that where any other tributary to the Ganges is carrying pollutants and throws those pollutants in the Ganges, that stretch has also to be taken care of and that is what I have told in my reply that the stretch of the river Yamuna along Allahabad which is the gravest pollutant, for that schemes have been taken up in that stretch also so that those pollutants should not fall in the Ganges. As far as Delhi and other areas through which the river Yamuna passes are concerned, it does not come under Ganga Action Plan but, Sir, we have taken up the matter with the State Governments and the Delhi Administration and as a matter of fact, Delhi Administration has some schemes to check that pollution in the Ganges. The most difficult area, the most polluted stretch of the river Yamuna is between Delhi and Agra. Beyond Agra to Allahabad, the pollution lessers because some tributaries like Chambal Cane and Betwa also fall there and therefore, the pollution level comes down. The stretch which is the most pollutant as far as Ganga Action Plan is concerned, is along Allahabad and Ganga Action Plan has taken care of that stretch.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the house by Shri Kapil Verma.